

Overview

- **Visual Displays**
- **Spatial 6DOF Trackers**
- **Hand Devices**
- **Spatial Sound Systems**
- **Graphics Engines**
- **Miscellany**



Input Devices

Position/Orientation (6 DOF)

Trackers

Magnetic

Ultrasonic

Optical

Mechanical

Inertial

Hand

Mouse

Spaceball

Dial Box

Command/Selection

Gestures

Fiber Optic

Resistance

Mechanical

Optical

Speech

Isolated

Connected

Continuous

Biofeedback

EMG (Muscle)

EOG (Eye)

EEG (Brain)



Output Devices

Visual

Head Mounted

LCD

Fiber Optic

CRT

Boom Mounted

CRT

Flat Screen

CRT

Projector

Speech Synthesis

Prerecorded

Text to Speech

Auditory

Headphones

External Speakers

Tactile

Air Bladders

Vibrating Transducers

Memory Metals

Haptic

Glove

Mechanical Arm



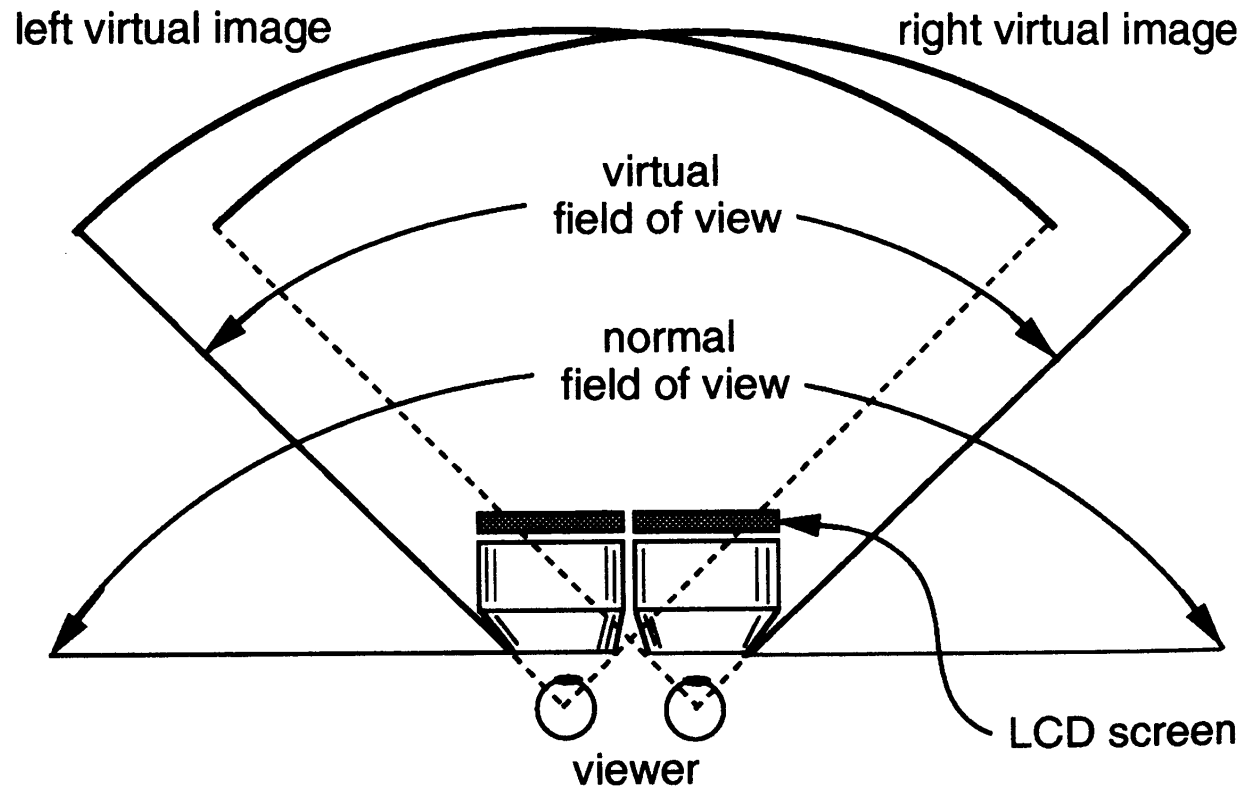
Visual Displays

The “Perfect” Display

- **light weight**
- **low power**
- **wireless**
- **high resolution**
- **full color**
- **wide (variable) field of view**
- **variable opacity**



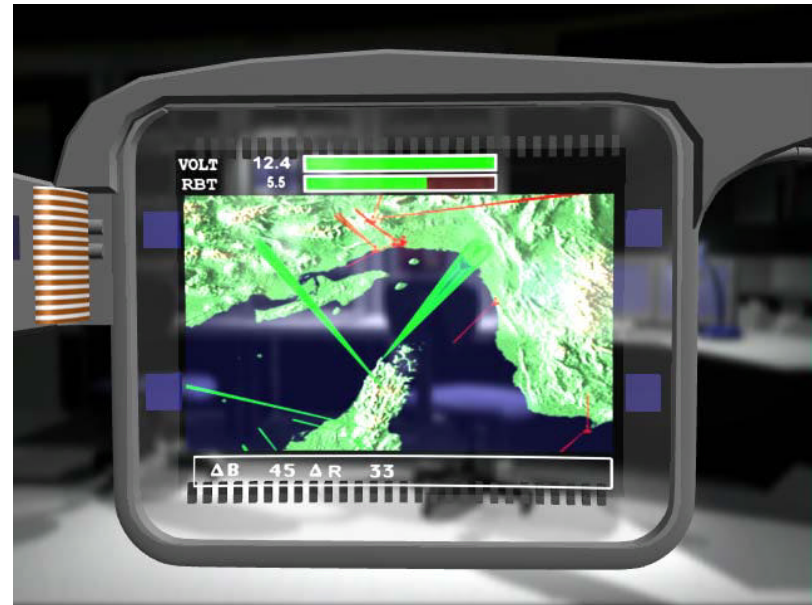
HMD Components



Head-Mounted Displays

- **Characteristics are highly dependent on the technology used in the light-emitting component**
- **Early attempts used LEDs but were monochrome. (Private Eye displays)**
- **Current technology of choice is LCDs which now allow color but are limited in resolution and have high power consumption**
- **We are awaiting the next breakthrough technology....**

The Diffraction Ltd Eye-Worn Display



Human Interface Technology Laboratory at the University of Washington

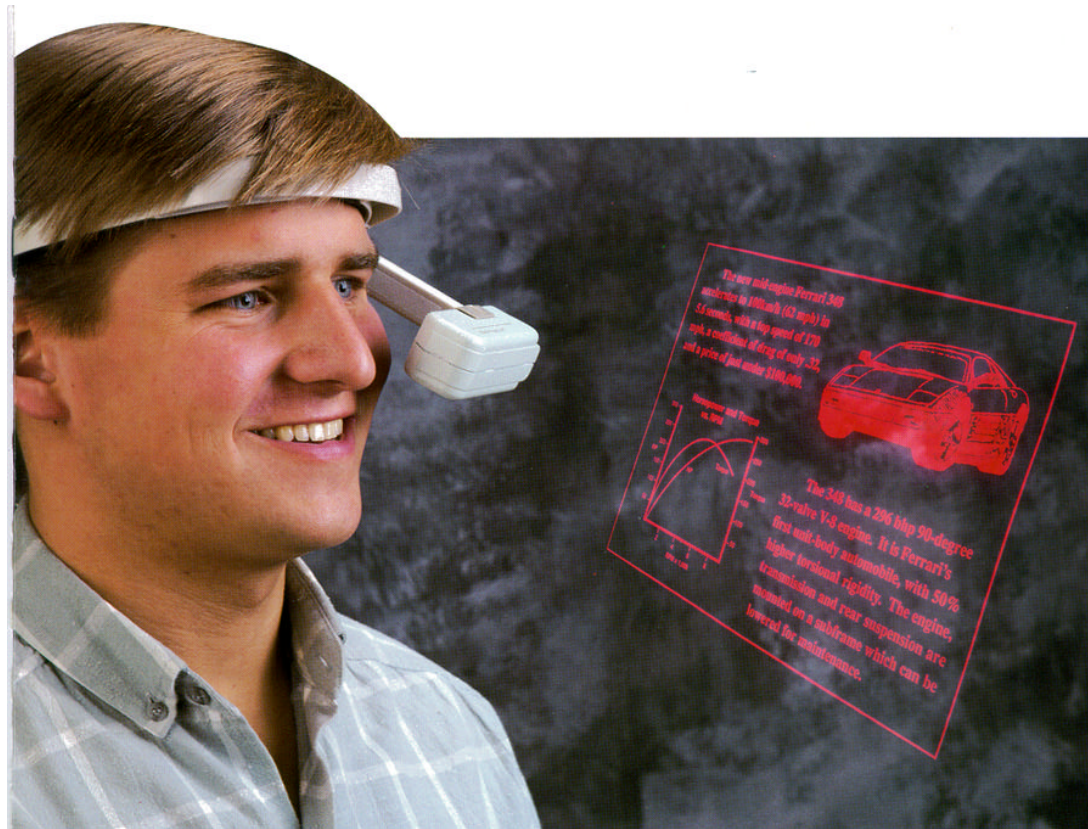
The Retinal Scanner



<http://www.hitl.washington.edu/projects/vrd/>

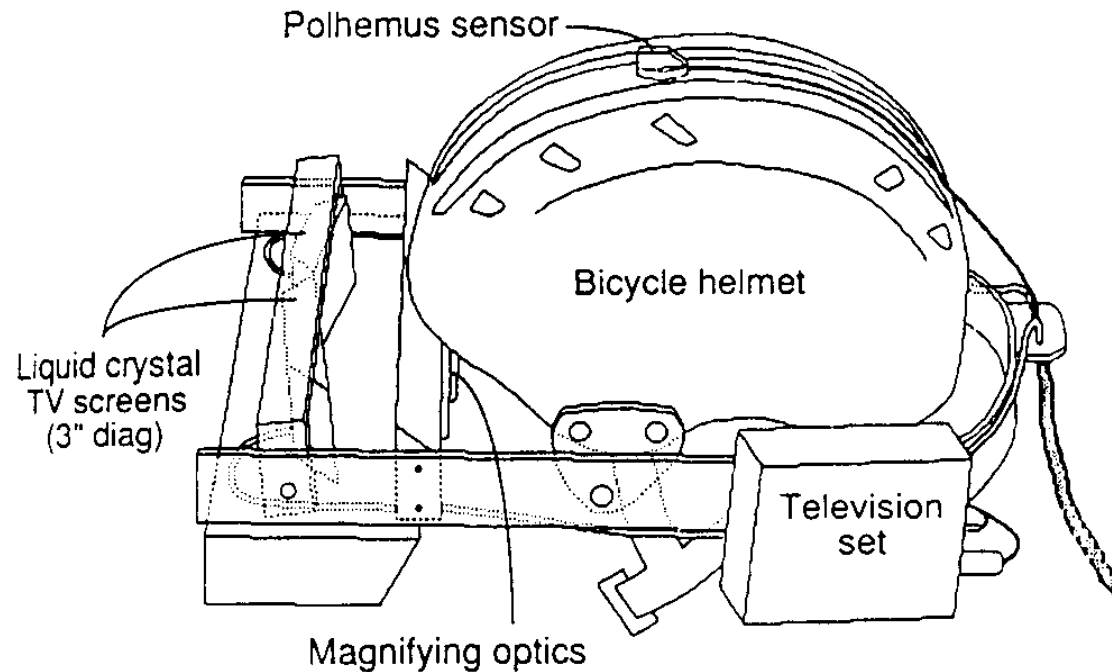


The Private Eye



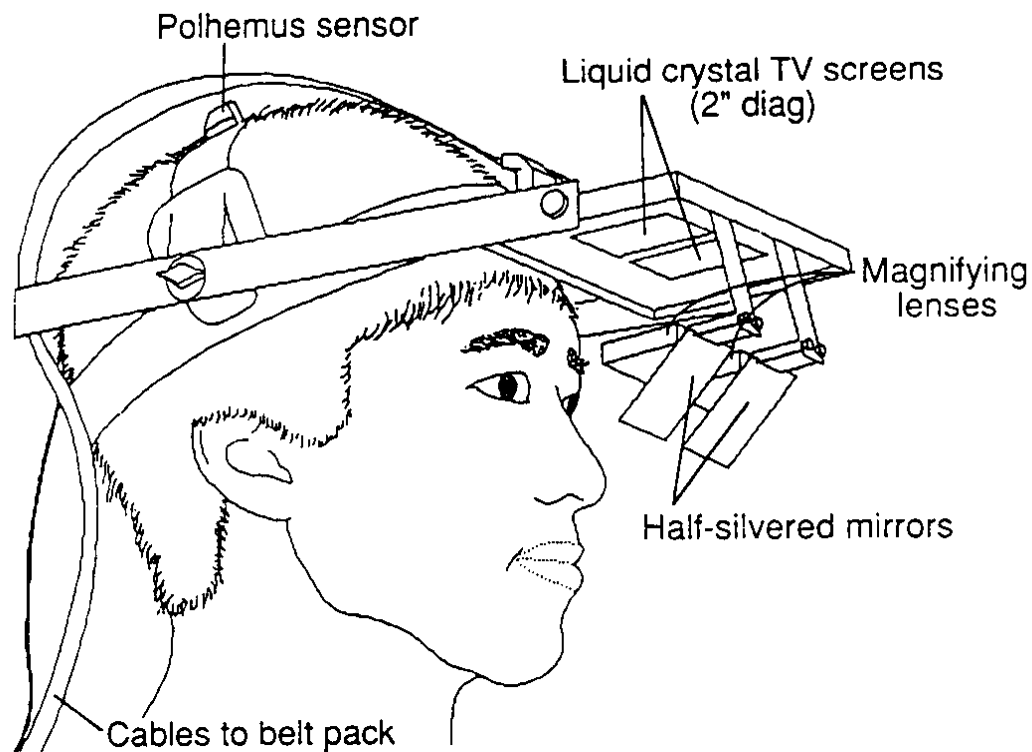
UNC/AFIT HMD

FIGURE 3-29 UNC/AFIT head-mounted display diagram



UNC See-Thru Display

FIGURE 3-30 UNC see-through head-mounted display



The Virtual Research VR4



<http://www.virtualresearch.com/>

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

High-End Displays



Kaiser Sim-Eye



CAE Electronics

BOOM

(Binocular Omni-Orientation Monitor)



- Another approach was to use the best display technology available (which was CRTs at the time) and to mount them on a counterbalanced arm to offset the weight.
- This work was pioneered at NASA Ames and now is done exclusively by Fakespace Inc.

<http://www.fakespace.com>



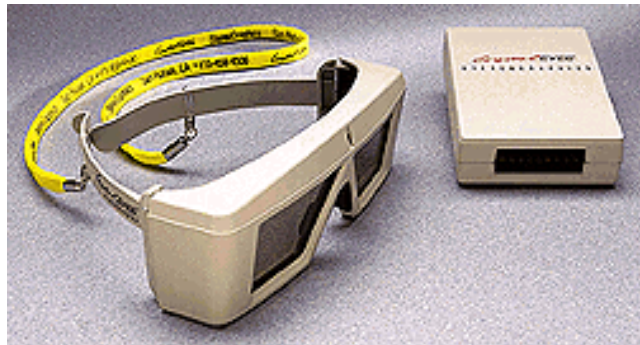
PUSH

- One problem with the BOOM devices is that they are very heavy and bulky.
- What many people wanted was a display that could fit on their desk and be used in concert with their workstation display.
- The PUSH display stands on three isometric arms that sense intended movement but do not allow large movements to take place.
- It has a very small footprint and is cheaper than its larger counterparts.
- Also done by Fakespace Inc.



3D Stereo Graphics

StereoGraphics Crystal Eyes



- An inexpensive alternative to HMDs or other types of displays is to produce a stereo image on the workstation screen and view it via stereo glasses.
- This is a similar approach to 3D movies.

<http://www.stereographics.com/>

Immersadesk

- **Going a step further, many applications demand a bigger workspace than is offered by a 20" desktop monitor.**
- **Desktop monitors usually stand upright, perpendicular to the table surface.**
- **Many people thought that it would be useful to produce a flat, or near flat, 3D workspace using stereo glasses.**



Immersadesk or Virtual Workbench



http://www.fakespace.com/new_pro.html?



<http://www.evl.uic.edu/EVL/VR/systems.html>

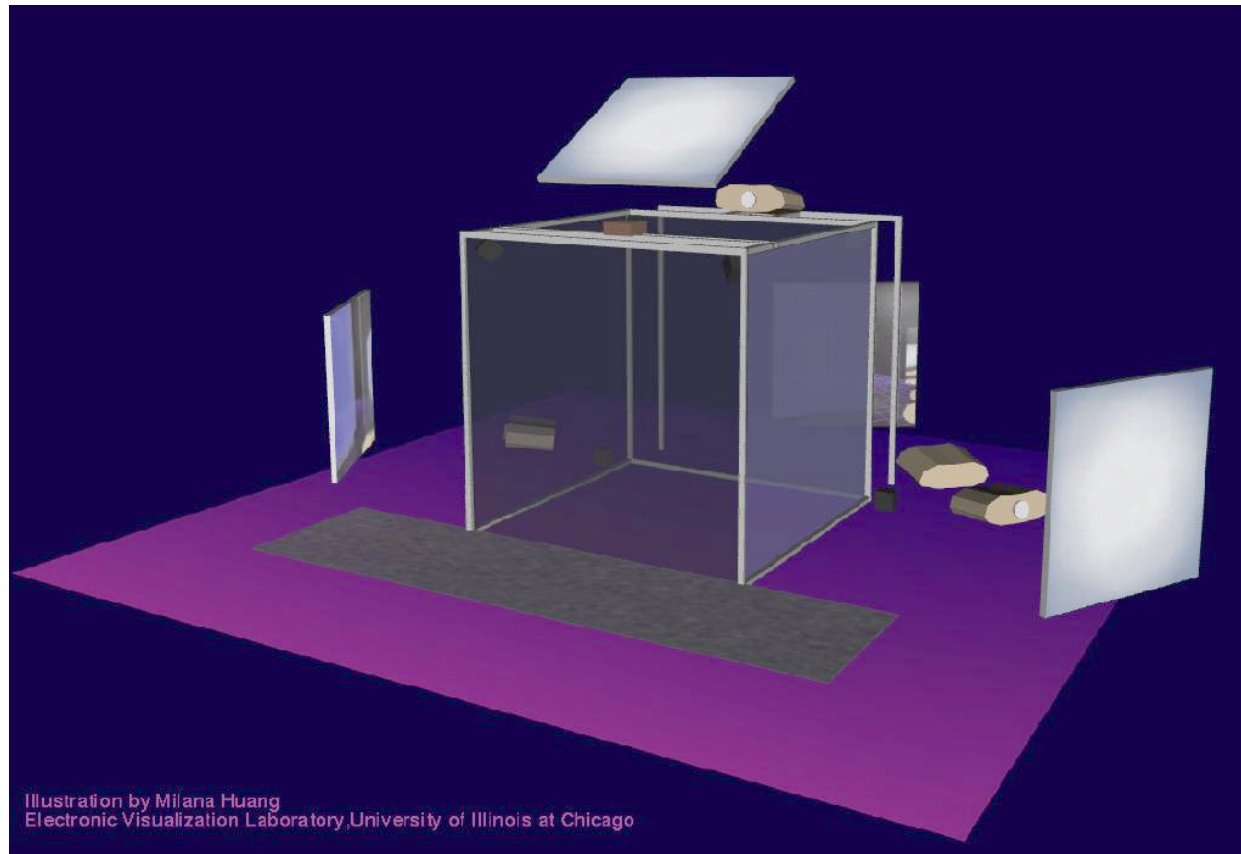


CAVE

WISE (Walk-In Synthetic Environment)

- **Developed at the University of Illinois at Chicago (C. Cruz-Neira), the CAVE uses several projection screens on the walls and floor in place of an HMD.**
- **Many people can experience the environment simultaneously.**
- **At present, only one can be tracked so others see a distorted image.**

CAVE



<http://www.evl.uic.edu/EVL/VR/systems.html#CAVE>



Hand Devices

- **Hand worn devices**

- Dataglove
- Cyberglove
- Powerglove

- **Hand held devices**

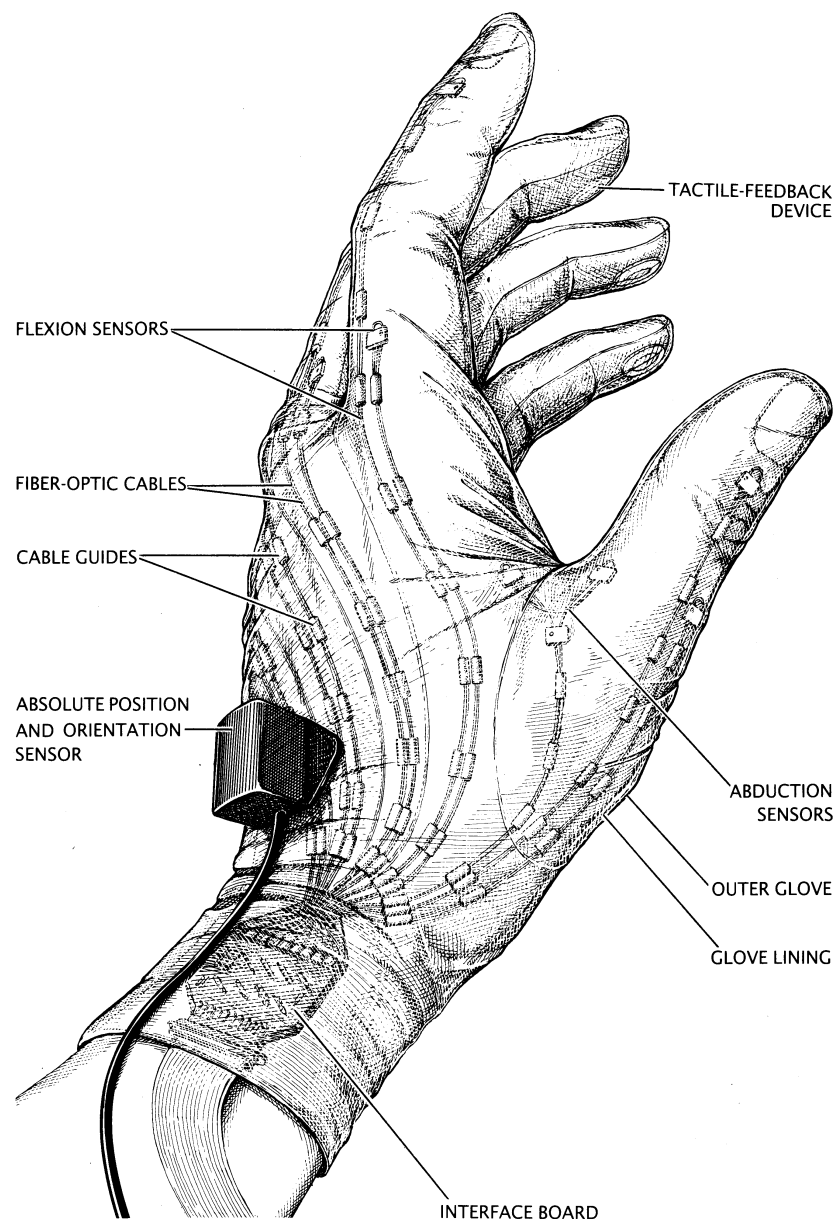
- Flying mouse
- Wand

- **Hand manipulated devices**

- Spaceball
- Joystick



The VPL Dataglove



- The first hand worn device
- Fiber optic
- Frequent calibration

Virtual Technologies Cyberglove



- Stress sensors instead of fiber optics
- More degrees of freedom
- Less noise and calibration problems



<http://www.virtex.com/~virtex/>

video

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

The Powerglove

Abrams Gentile Entertainment Inc (AGE)

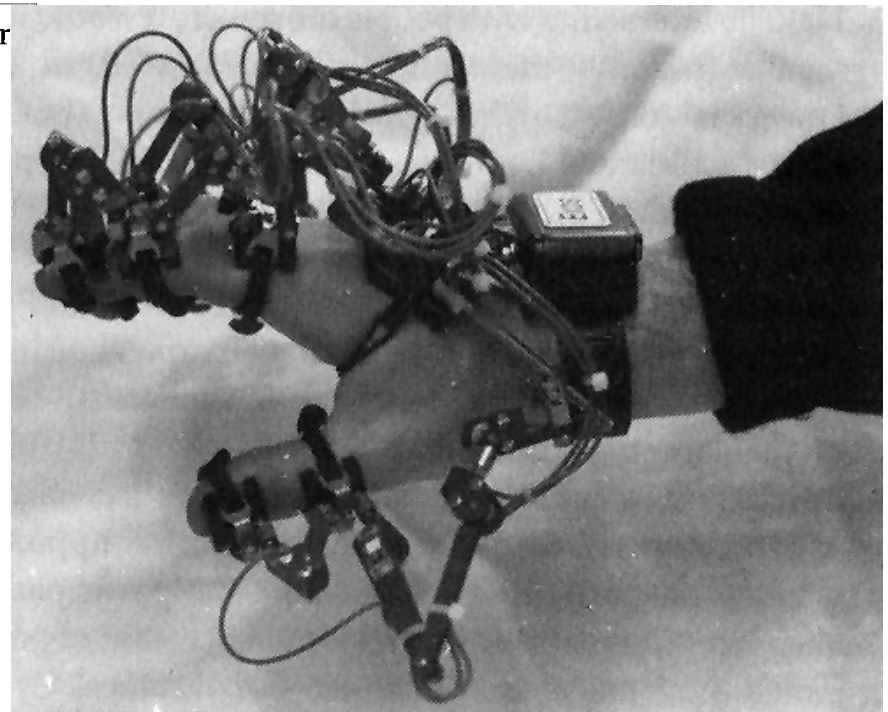
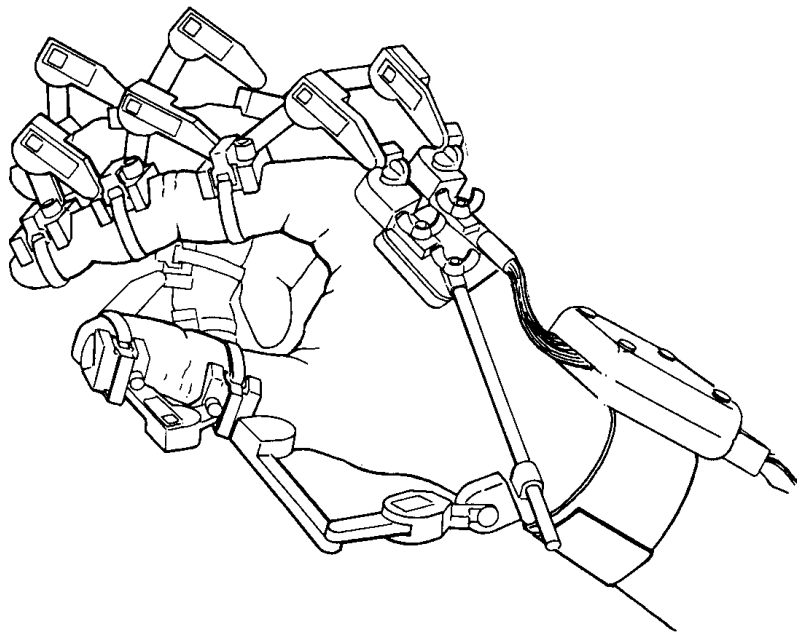


<http://www.cms.dmu.ac.uk/~cph/pg2.html>

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

The Exos Dexterous Hand Master

FIGURE 6-5 Functional diagram of the Dexterous Hand Master

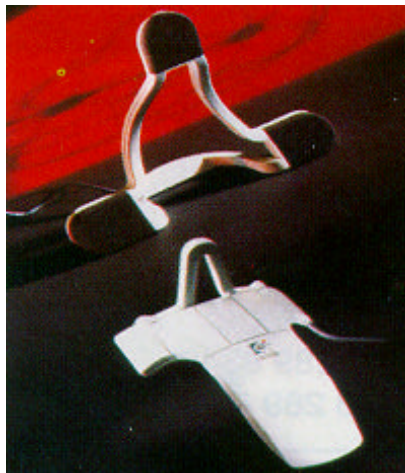
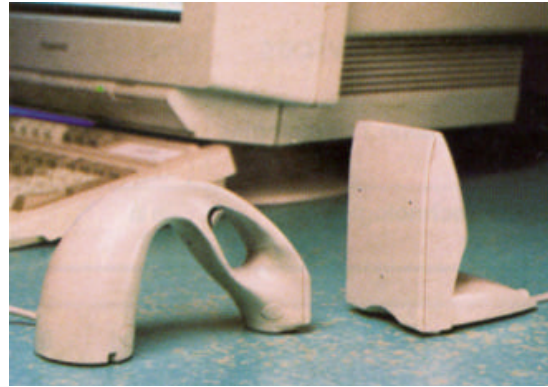
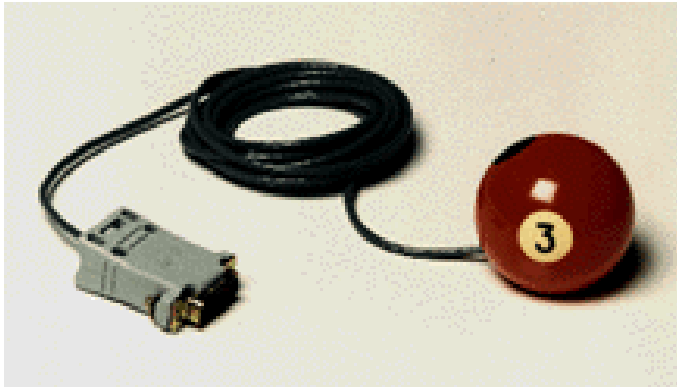


Gestures

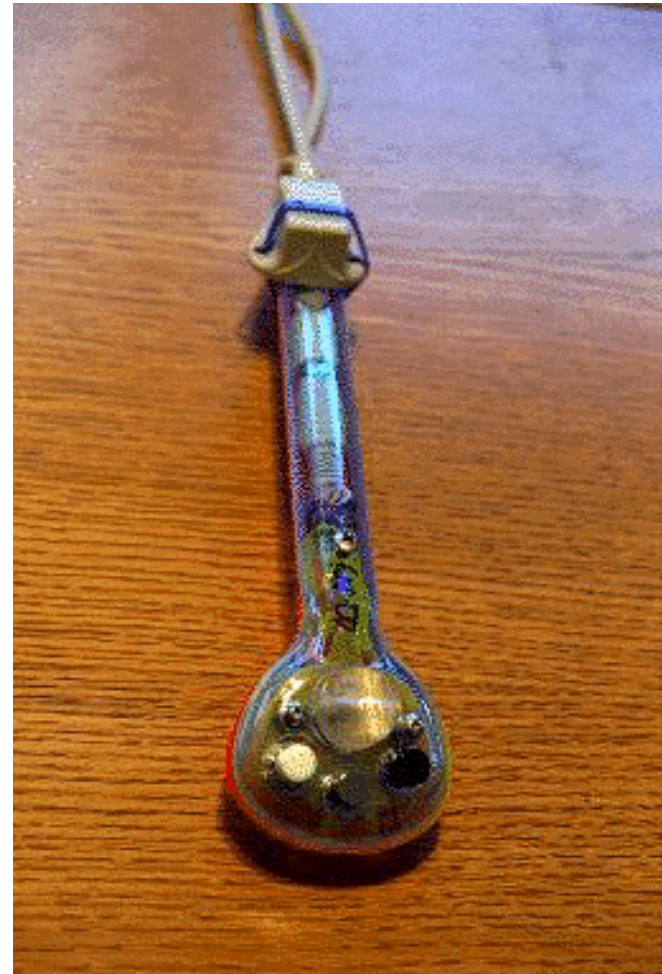
- **Gesture \neq Posture**
- **Fast recognition rates**
- **Lower computation**
- **Accuracy**



Flying Mouse

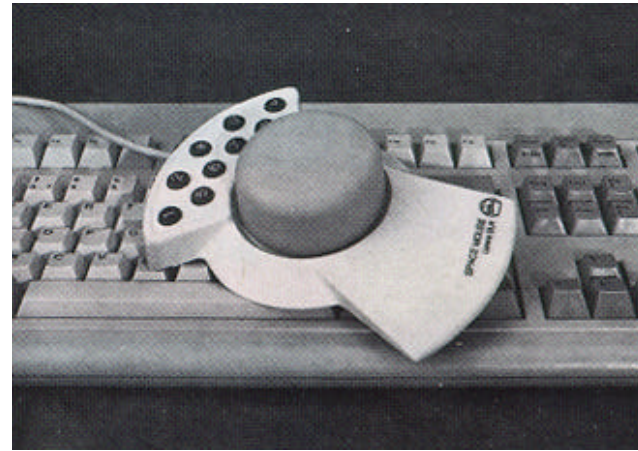
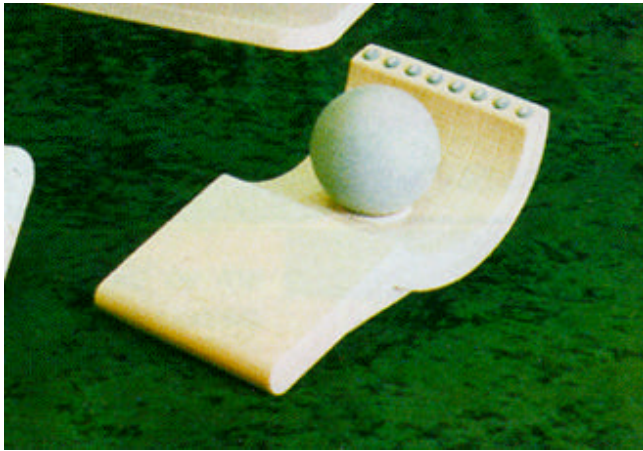


Wand



<http://www.evl.uic.edu/EVL/VR/imput.html#wand>

Spaceball



Force Feedback

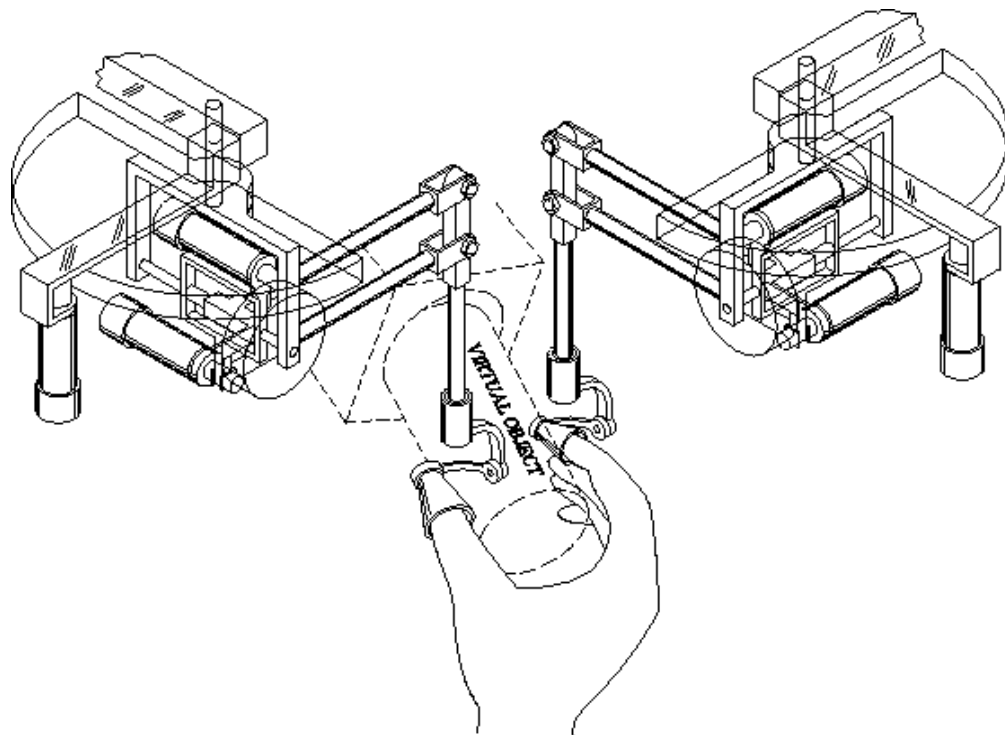
Haptics

- **UNC Project GROPE**
- **SensAble Technologies, PHANToM**



The PHANToM

SensAble Technologies, Inc.

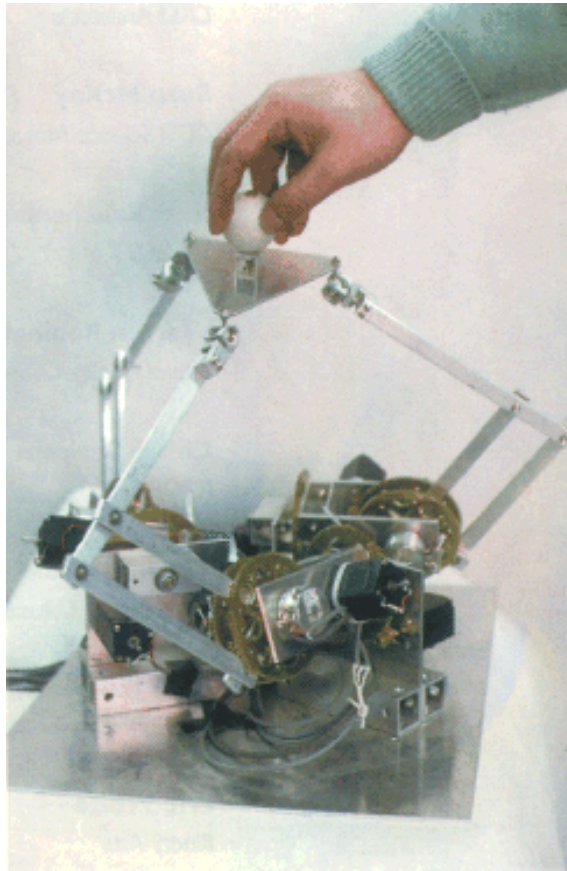


<http://www.sensable.com/>



The Haptic Master

Nissho Electronics Corp.



<http://intron.kz.tsukuba.ac.jp/HM/txt.html>

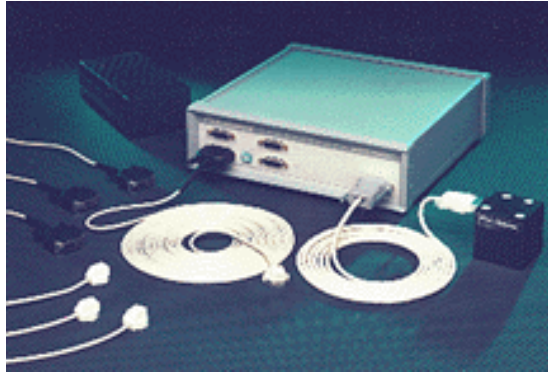


Spatial Tracking Technologies

- **Magnetic**
- **Ultrasonic**
- **Optic**
- **Mechanical**
- **Inertial**
- **Radio Frequency (RF)**



Magnetic



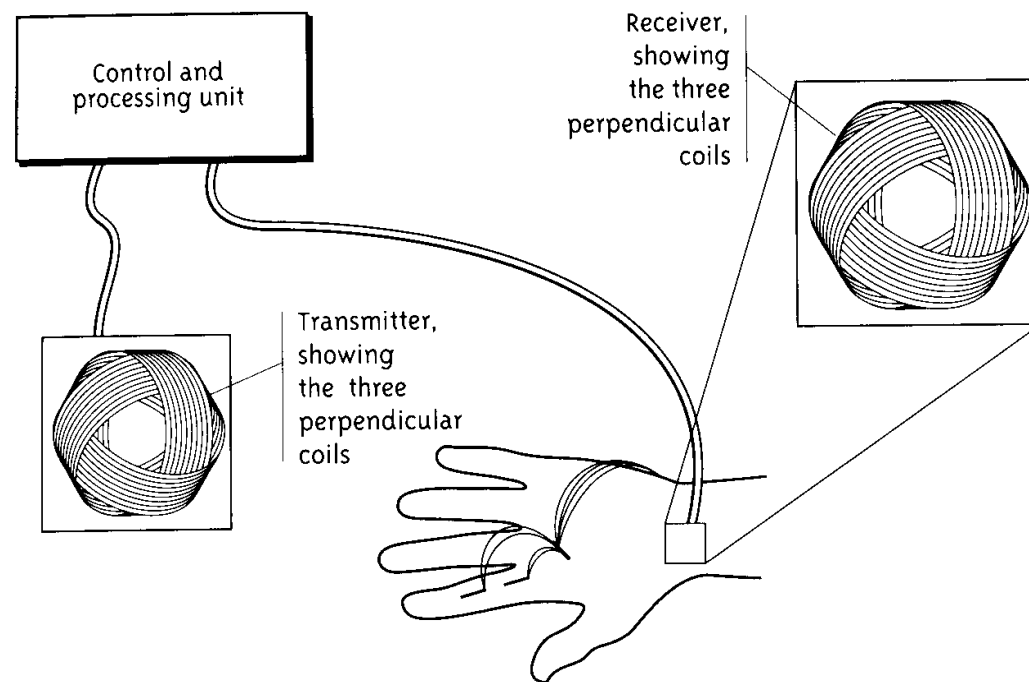
Polhemus Fastrak



Ascension Flock of Birds

Magnetic Position Sensing

FIGURE 2-3 Magnetic position sensing

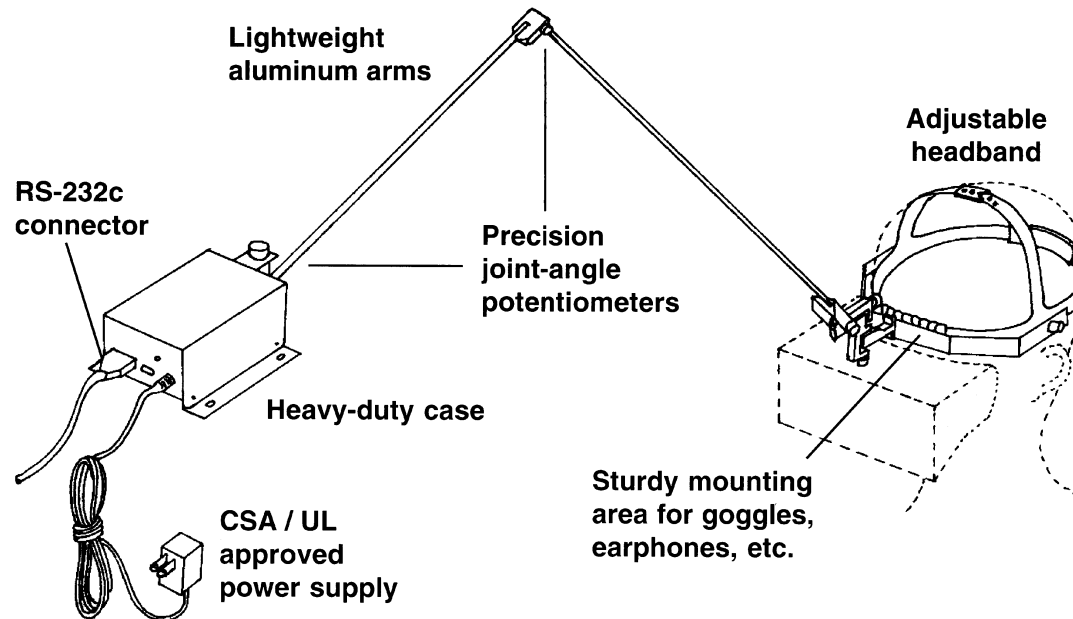


Inertial



InterSense Inc.

Mechanical

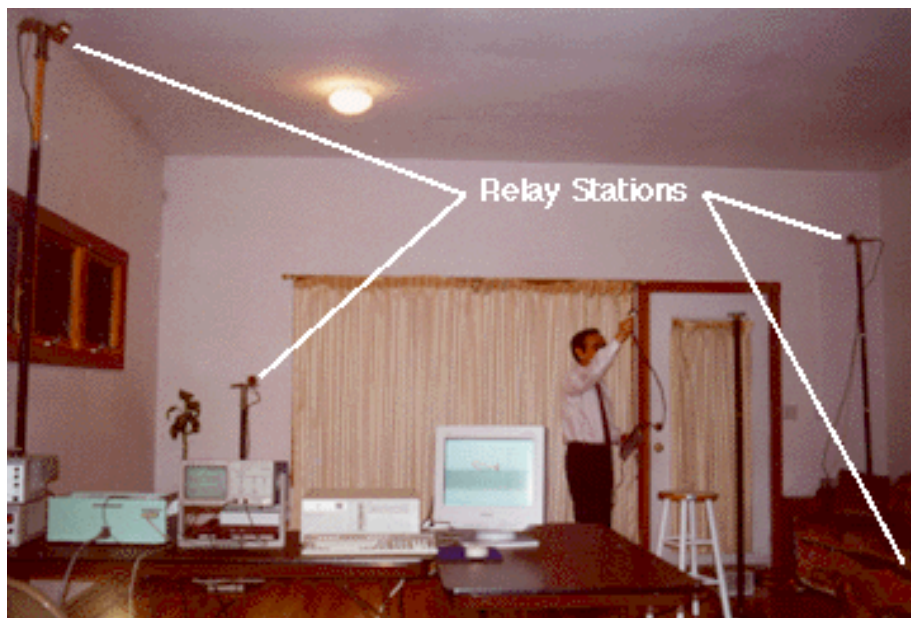


Shooting Star Technology



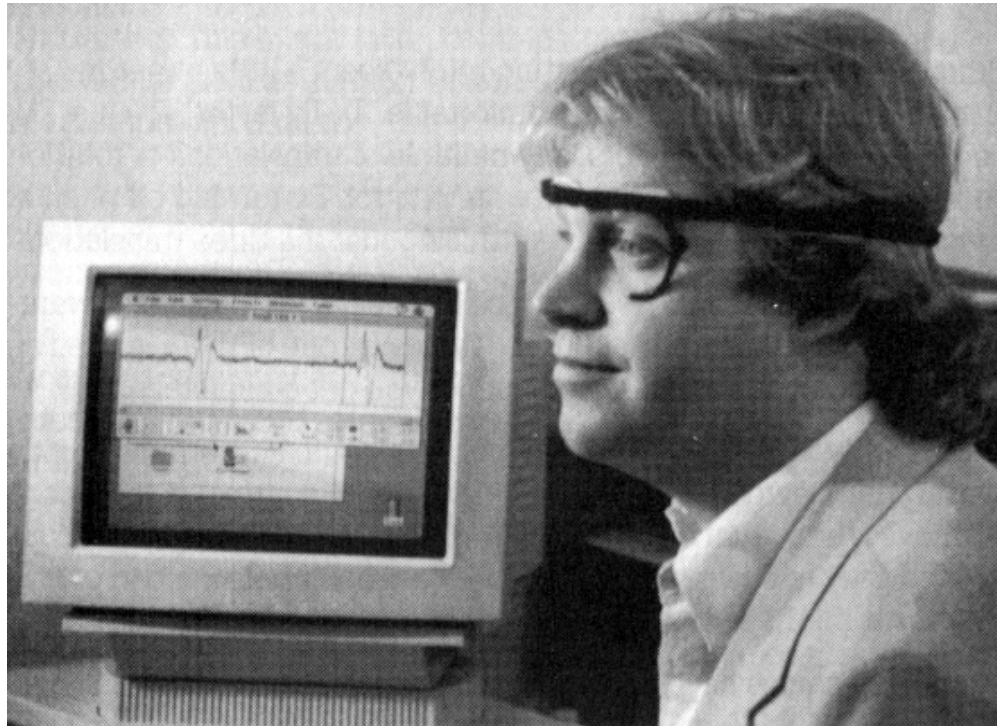
Radio Frequency

Advanced Position Systems, Inc.



Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

Biofeedback



BioMuse



Biofeedback Issues

- **Reliability**
- **Development of interaction techniques**
- **Implicit use**
- **Explicit use**
- **Accurate signal reception**
- **Accurate translation of the signal**
- **Reproducible output**



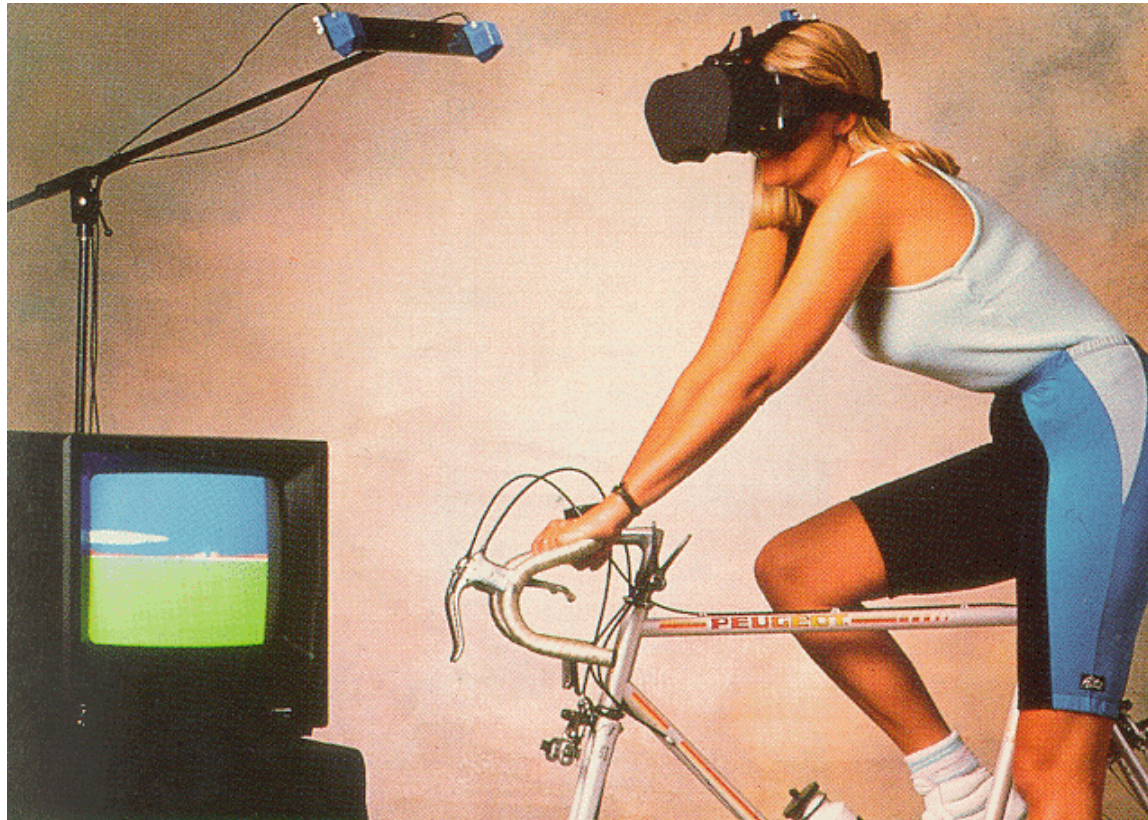
The Convolvotron

- The purpose of the Convolvotron was to provide 3D spatial sound
- Small microphones were mounted in the ears of a dummy head
- Sounds were played at various positions around the head and the amplitudes and phase differences between the sounds arrivals at the microphones were recorded

The Convolvotron (cont'd)

- Those parameters were used in the construction of a device, the Convolvotron, that could provide real-time, 3D positioning for sound that was otherwise not positioned. i.e. the sound would be modified for the stereo channels to simulate the phase and amplitude differences that would exist if the sound really was where the Convolvotron placed it.
- This work was done by Beth Wenzel of NASA and Scott Foster of Crystal River Engineering...

UNC's Bicycle



The UniPort



Sarcos

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

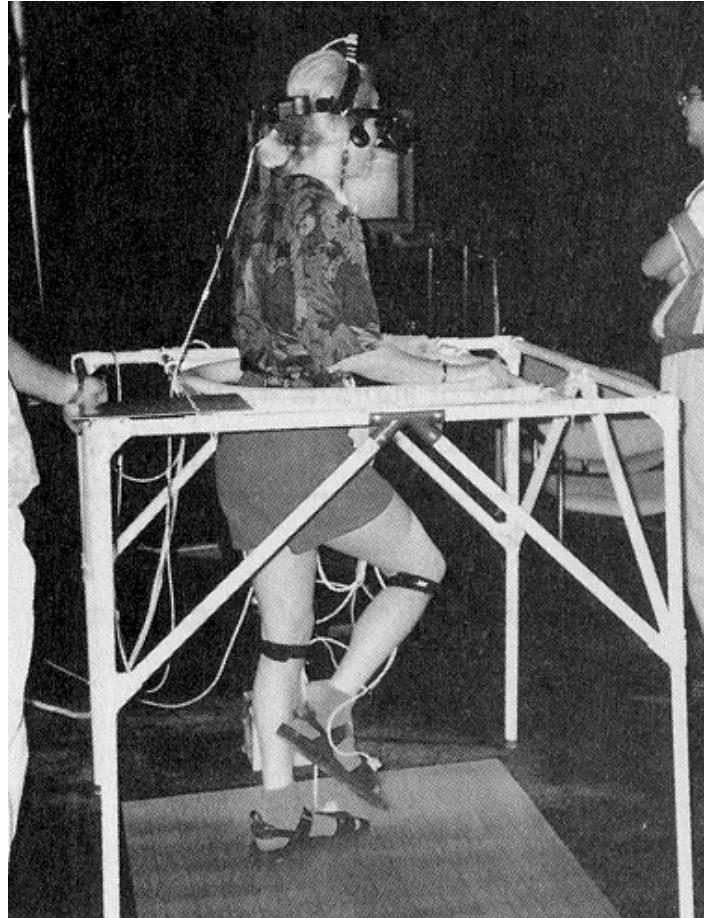
The TreadPort



Sarcos

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

The Virtual Perambulator



University of Tsukuba, Japan

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

The Omni-Directional Treadmill

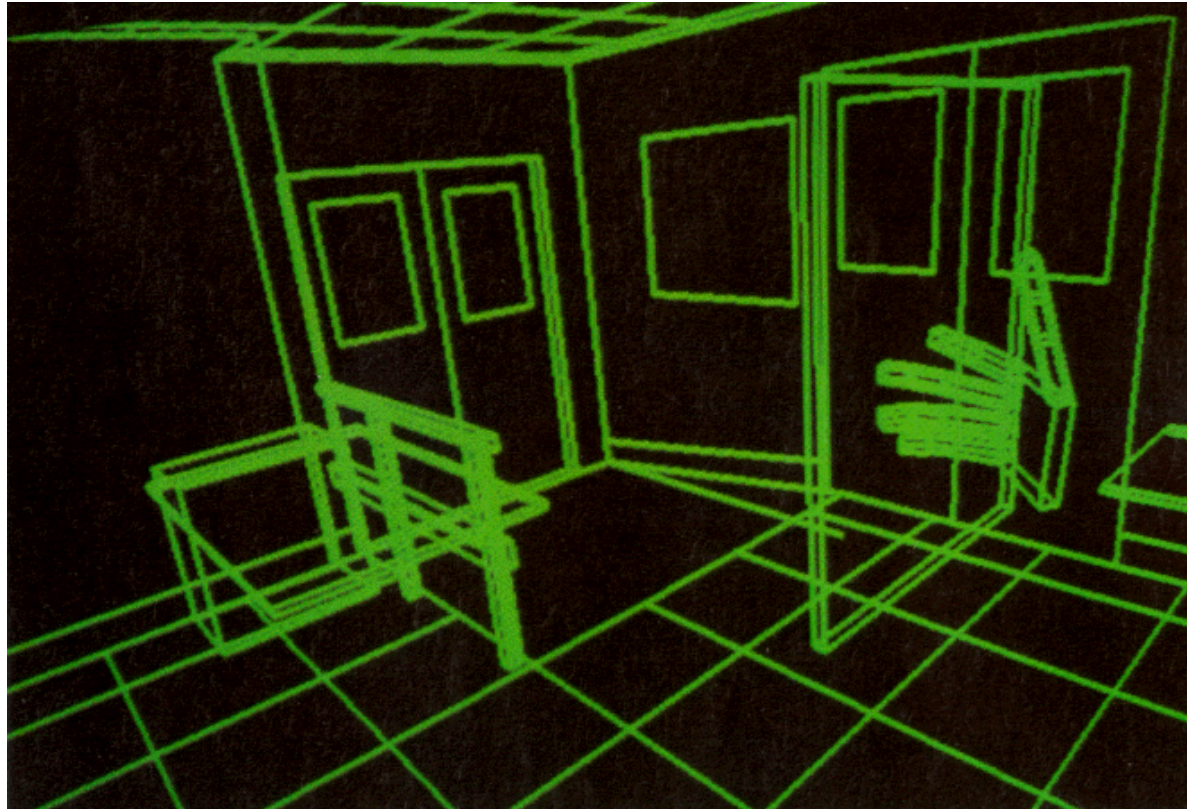


Virtual Space Devices, Inc.

video



Early Graphics



Graphics Today

Silicon Graphics, Inc.

- 8 to 16 4MB cache MIPS R10000 processors
- 64MB to 8GB RAM
- Up to 8 graphics pipelines
- Multiple pipe graphics rendering
- 80 Million Polygons/second
- 5.3 Gigapixel fill rate
- Texture Memory combined for Volume Rendering
- Straightforward OpenGL API



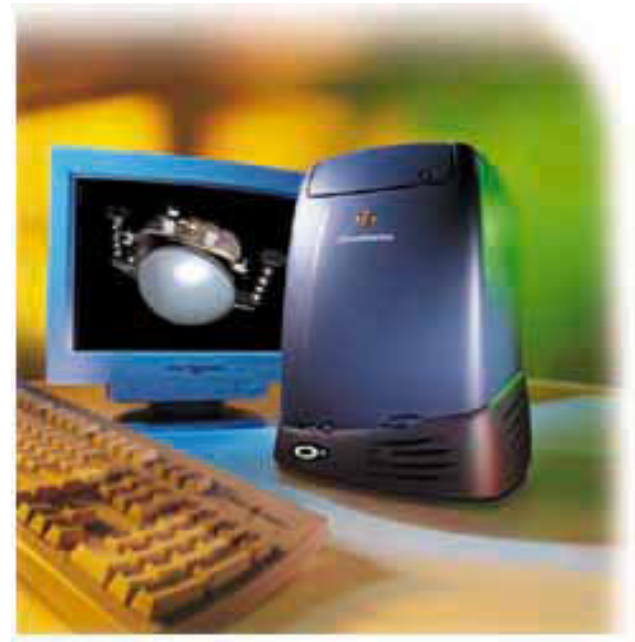
Onyx2 RealityMonster
\$\$\$\$

 Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

Graphics Today

Silicon Graphics, Inc.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| • Pixels/Sec Goraud Filled | 33M |
| • Pixels/Sec Textured | 33M |
| • Triangles/Sec Flat | 770K |
| • Triangles/Sec Goraud | 475K |
| • Triangles/Sec Textured | 193K |



02

\$

Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware

Graphics Today

Intergraph, Inc.

INTERGRAPH
COMPUTER SYSTEMS



TDZ 3D GRAPHICS WORKSTATIONS

- Windows NT
- 200 MHz Pentium Pro processors
- Up to 1GB RAM
- 2.5 million pixels
- Double-buffered
- True color
- Textured, 64MB
- >1.2 million polygons/sec

video

**Introduction to
Virtual Environment Technology
Hardware**

